
235.56**WIC-Eligible Nutritionals****Overview**

Introduction	This policy describes how to handle requests for WIC-eligible nutritionals.
Definition	<p><u>WIC-eligible nutritionals</u> means certain enteral products that are specifically formulated to provide nutritional support for individuals (women, infants and children) with a diagnosed medical condition when the use of conventional foods is precluded, restricted, or inadequate. These foods may be nutritionally complete or incomplete, but they must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Serve the purpose of a food, meal or diet;• Provide a source of calories and one or more nutrients,• Be designed for enteral digestion via an oral or tube feeding, and• May not be a conventional food, drug, flavoring or enzyme. <p>Examples include toddler formulas, pediatric formulas, adult formulas, and modular components (MCT oil, powdered protein, glucose polymers, human milk fortifiers, etc).</p>
Examples of unapproved products	<p>The following are not considered a WIC-eligible nutritionals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formulas used solely for the purpose of enhancing nutrient intake, managing body weight, addressing picky eaters, or used for a condition other than a qualifying condition (e.g., vitamin pills, weight control products, etc.);• Medicines or drugs as defined by the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act;• Enzymes, herbs or botanicals;• Oral rehydration or electrolyte solutions;• Flavoring or thickening agents; and• Feeding utensils or devices designed to administer approved medical foods.
Policy reference	7 CFR Part 246 Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): Revisions in the WIC Food Packages; Final Rule

Authorizing WIC-Eligible Nutritionals

Introduction	The process for authorizing a WIC-eligible nutritional involves obtaining a prescription along with other medical documentation and locating a vendor in the participant's community.													
Policy	A CPA may authorize WIC-eligible nutritional from the state-approved list.													
Length of authorizations	Authorizations are based on the documentation from the prescribing authority.													
Infant food packages with powder formula	<p>If the food package includes powder formula, the total reconstituted ounces per month is based on the infant's age and must provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least the full nutrition benefit defined as the minimum amount of reconstituted fluid ounces of liquid concentrate, but • Not more than the maximum monthly allowance for the physical form of the product. <p>See Policy 235.03 for the amounts of formula based on the infant's age.</p>													
Mixed food packages for women and children	<p>Some medical conditions may warrant the use of several products and combinations of powder, concentrate and ready-to-feed formulas. The total reconstituted ounces per month cannot exceed 910 ounces for women and children.</p> <table> <tr> <td>Example:</td><td>24 containers 13 oz. concentrate</td><td>624 oz. (diluted)</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>36 containers 89 ml (3 oz.) Microlipid</td><td>108 oz.</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>40 containers 4.2 oz. liquid Polycose</td><td><u>168 oz.</u></td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>Total</td><td>900 oz.</td></tr> </table> <p><u>Note:</u> If the food package includes a powdered product that added to other products instead of being reconstituted and used by itself, please call the state WIC office for assistance in designing the food package.</p>		Example:	24 containers 13 oz. concentrate	624 oz. (diluted)		36 containers 89 ml (3 oz.) Microlipid	108 oz.		40 containers 4.2 oz. liquid Polycose	<u>168 oz.</u>		Total	900 oz.
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Authorizing WIC-Eligible Nutritionals, Continued

Supplemental foods

Medical documentation is required to authorize supplemental foods for all participants receiving a WIC-eligible nutritional.

A limited number of the infants 6 months and older may have qualifying conditions that preclude them from consuming solid foods. When medical documentation is provided for the qualifying conditions, these infants can receive the amount of formula issued to infants who are 4 to 5 months old.

Adequate documentation

If the prescription or medical documentation is adequate,

- Design the food package,
- Issue **benefits**, and
- **Electronically** file the medical documentation.

Incomplete documentation

Follow this procedure to obtain complete documentation.

Step	Action
1	Design the food package and provide one month of benefits .
2	Determine the best way to obtain written documentation from the health care provider. Options include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calling the provider. • Mailing or faxing a Special Formula Medical Documentation form to the provider. • Sending the form with the parent/guardian if an appointment is scheduled soon.
3	Identify and notify a vendor. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call one of the Vendor Representatives for assistance. • The vendor may be a regular vendor or a special purpose vendor based on product availability and potential need for Medicaid reimbursement for additional formula (see Policy 235.30).
4	Follow-up with the provider as needed to obtain the written documentation or to clarify the prescription.
5	When adequate medical documentation is received, issue two more months of benefits and electronically file the documentation.

Note: See Policy 235.50 for more information about documentation requirements for information provided over the phone.

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